

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 10, 1858.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. IVERSON made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 67.]

*The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the memorial of Jonas P. Keller, report :*

In 1849, as it appears from the memorial and papers in this case, the executive building at the corner of F and Seventeenth streets was occupied by various bureaus of the Treasury, War, and Interior Departments, but no legal provision existed for the superintendence and care of the building. Under these circumstances, the Secretaries of those departments authorized Mr. McPherson, a clerk in the War Department, to take charge of the building as acting superintendent, who immediately devolved the duty of the care and oversight of the daily police of the place upon the memorialist, who performed the service (as Mr. McPherson and others certify) until the act of 27th of February, 1851, which provided watchmen for the building, took effect.

From the appropriation made by that act Mr. Keller received a compensation for his services at the rate of \$500 per annum, subsequently to 1st October, 1850, but no means were provided for paying for the service rendered between 1st April, 1849, when his duties commenced under the authority derived from the heads of the several departments, and the 1st October, 1850, and it is for this period that compensation is now claimed.

The act of 1850, (9 Stat., 542,) which prohibits the accounting officers from allowing to one individual the salaries of two different offices, expressly provides that "this prohibition shall not extend to the superintendents of the executive buildings."

Believing the claim, to the extent above indicated, to be just, the committee report the accompanying bill, and recommend its passage.

